## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04467 110337Z ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 /088 W

-----066507 110900Z /23

R 101044Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8255
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

**UNCLAS TEHRAN 04467** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PEPR, AF, IR

SUBJ: AFGHAN EVENTS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE PRESS ATTENTION

- 1. LOCAL PRESS CONTINUES TO FOLLOW CLOSELY AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS, RUNNING FRONT PAGE STORIES MAY 10 ON TARAKI'S LUNCH MEETING WITH TWO PAK POLITICIANS "PROMINENTLY LINKED WITH SECESSIONIST TENDENCIES". REUTERS ACCOUNT, PUBLISHED IN BOTH ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILIES, NOTES THAT ABDUL GHAFFAR KHAN AND AJMAL KHATTAK WERE THE FIRST NON-DIPLOMAT FOREIGNERS TO BE RECEIVED BY THE REGIME.
- 2. FRENCH LANGUAGE JOURNAL DE TEHRAN MAY 10 COMMENTED THAT IN HIS CONTACTS WITH IRANIANS EARLIER IN THE WEEK PAK FOREIGN ADVISER AGHA SHAHI HAD MADE NO SECRET OF HIS APPREHENSION OVER THE FUTURE POLICIES OF THE NEW AFGHAN REGIME, QUOTING HIM AS SAYING THAT "DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN WILL OPEN THE WAY FOR CONFUSION." EDITORIALLY THE JOURNAL C A "RELENTLESS PURGE" BY THE GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 04467 110337Z

OF ALL THE SENIOR CIVIL AND MILITARY FIGURES ASOCIATED WITH THE FORMER REGIME. THE EDITORIAL REFERS TO TRIBAL CHIEFS WHO "HAVE ALREADY 'DISAPPEARED'...REDUCING THE TRIBES TO OBEDIENCE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE OLD REGIME."

3. COMMENT: CONTINUED PROMINENCE GIVEN TO EACH NEW STEP

OF AFGHAN GOVENMNENT INDICATES WIDESPREAD, HIGH-LEVEL IRANIAN CONCERN WITH TREND OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THAT COUNTRY. REPORTS NOTED ABOVE CANNOT BE VERY COMFORTING. SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 10 may 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN04467
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780199-1021 Format: TEL From: TEHRAN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

**Expiration:** 

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780572/aaaacizr.tel

Line Count: 66 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 873330a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2730280 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: AFGHAN EVENTS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE PRESS ATTENTION

TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, PGOV, PINS, AF, IR

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/873330a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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